THE CLAIMS

1. An osteosynthetic device, in particular an intramedullary nail, having a longitudinal shape with a central axis, a first end, and a second end, wherein the shape of the device is helical.

2. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the envelope of the helix is a cylinder having the same central axis as the helix.

3. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the helix has a rotation of less than 540°, preferably less than 360°.

4. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the radius of the cylinder is in the range of 10 to 50 mm, preferably in the range of 15 to 30 mm.

5. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the pitch of the helix is in the range of 100 to 1500 mm, preferably in the range of 300 to 1000 mm.

6. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the pitch of the helix is greater than 400 mm, preferably larger than 600 mm.

7. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the cross-section orthogonal to the central axis of the helix is a circle.

8. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the cross-section orthogonal to the central axis of the helix is a square or a star.

9. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the second end is pointed.

10. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the cross-section orthogonal to the central axis of the helix is essentially a rectangle with the sides a and b, the larger side b being oriented to the outer and inner sides of the helix.

11. The osteosynthetic device of claim 10, wherein the ratio of a:b is smaller than 0.5, preferably smaller than 0.35.

12. The osteosynthetic device of claim 10, wherein the essentially rectangular cross-section is rounded at its smaller sides a.

13. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the portion of the helix near the first end is thicker than the portion of the helix near the second end.

14. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the central axis of the helix is a straight line.

15. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the cross-section orthogonal to the central axis has a maximum dimension in the range of 5 to 14 mm, preferably in the range of 7 to 11 mm.

16. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the length of the cylinder or of the helix is in the range of 200 to 500 mm, preferably in the range of 250 mm to 400 mm.

17. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the device is provided with through holes for locking screws, preferably near the second end.

18. The osteosynthetic device of claim 1, wherein the device is provides with at least two, preferably with at least three through holes for locking screws.